

To my friends and fellow citizens
the town of Wayland,

From library notebook
compiled by

I am authorized to say to you that if you will "within thirty days from the tenth day of January 1848, raise by subscription or otherwise the sum of \$500, for the purchase of a town library, a "friend of the town of Wayland" will add to it the same sum of \$500. as soon as such "friend" shall be informed that the said subscription is completed and money raised.

This liberal proffer is now before you, my friends, and it is for us to say whether we will contribute liberally for this purpose, or by careless indifference let slip a more than golden opportunity to lay the foundation of an institution that shall bless generations, who shall succeed us, when we long after we are silent and can do no more. I do most confidently appeal to you, whom I have known for years, and express my unweavering trust that you will not permit this occasion, fraught with consequences so momentous, so far reaching, to pass you without arresting & holding & improving it. We are a part of the good old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, of whom, wherever I am, I make the boast, and it is no vain boasting that wherever

LIBRARY - Fort Worth (M)

30A2

there is Child of misfortune, mutilated of
any sense by Providential visitation, however
low, forgotten or sunken, let that misfortune
be made ~~known~~ known publicly, and a
remedy pointed out, there will be
opened a stream of charity public or
private, or both, wide and deep enough
to heal or relieve that child or children
however numerous, of joy and sorrow.

It is these charitable and philanthropic
institutions, more than any one thing, that make
each of us, when beyond her limits, feel a
rising of the heart at the mention of the name
of Massachusetts. I was but yesterday speaking
of this same subject to a commercial friend,
who replied with a hearty flush manly
his cheek; "I have stood on the exchange
of Liverpool, of Antwerp, of Paris, of Leg-
horn, of London, of almost every commer-
cial city in the world, and, at each one of
these, I have felt a pride, that my
eyes first opened to the light in old
Massachusetts." And I will not believe
that this place, in whose prosperity I have
for years felt a strong interest, will prove
itself unworthy of this proud alliance,
as the only part of this Commonwealth
that cannot be touched by an appeal
for a charity that shall bless others

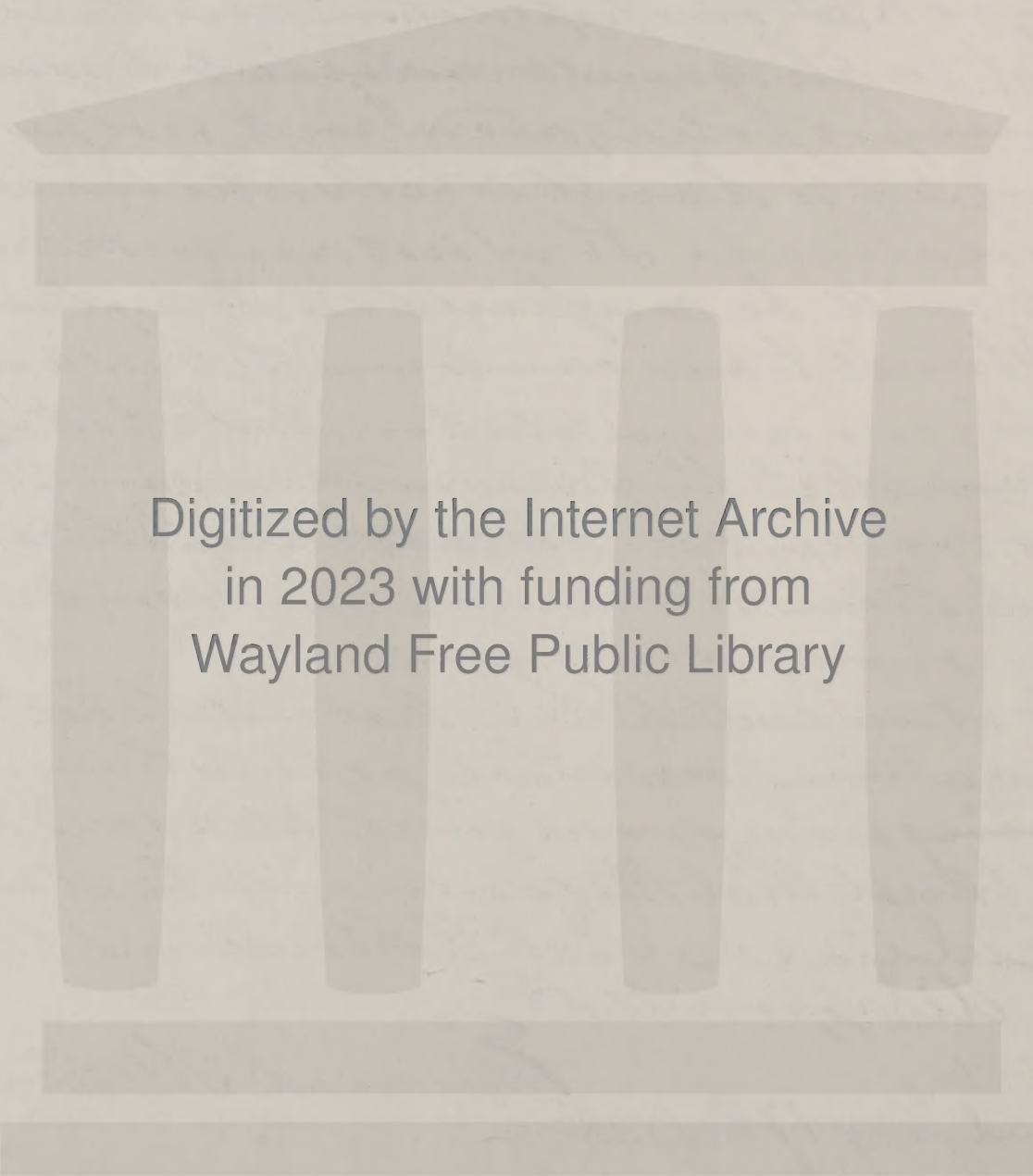
their kindred men. Nay it is ~~our~~^{our} appeal, to found an institution, which is to bless us and those of our descendants who upon this spot shall represent us, in all coming time.

Look at our population and the sum that each must contribute, to raise the sum proposed, and I will not permit myself to doubt whether the sum will be realized. It is not an institution that will be confined in its influence as I trust to our own town. Let us aid in fixing an institution, that shall attract towards it the favorable regard of the surrounding ~~Municipalities~~ and lead them to imitate our example for their own lasting good.

It is an institution, that will be for the education of our whole population, in all ~~future~~^{future} time, from youth to age. I hope and trust that this sum will be at once ~~specialized~~ realized. Shall that trust and hope be disappointed?

Edward Allen.

Wayland Jan'y 17th 1848.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
Wayland Free Public Library

<https://archive.org/details/listofdonorstoli00unse>

Wayland Jan. 22nd 1848

We, the subscribers, do hereby severally agree to pay, on or before the 10th day of Feb. next, the sums set against our respective names, to aid in raising the sum of Five hundred dollars, it being the requisite condition for securing the very liberal offer of an equal sum, made by "a Friend of Wayland"; the whole to be used in purchasing a Town Library, in such manner, and under such regulations as the Town may hereafter adopt.

Edward Nelson	Paid	25	dollars
James Draper	Paid	25	
William Heard	Paid	20	
J. D. Parmenter	Paid	12	
Louisa M. Parmenter	Paid	20	one family
M. Louisa Parmenter	Paid	1.00	
J. M. Parmenter	Paid	1.00	
H. D. Parmenter	Paid	1.00	
Sumner Moore	Paid	1.00	
Richard Heard	Paid	10 00	
Wmell Heard	Paid	3 00	
John W. Wright	Paid	5.00	
Edmund Heard	Paid	3.00	
Abel Heard	Paid	5.00	
		114	

Mary E. Reeves paid 1.00
 Lucia Ravis paid 1.00
 L. H. (Paid) Gleason 12.00
 George Heard Paid .00 } the family
 Geo. S. Heard Paid 2.00 }
 Moses W. Parmenter Paid .00 }
 Lavina Parmenter Paid .00 } the family
 Josiah Parmenter Paid .00 }
 Rosanna Parmenter Paid .00 }
 George Gleason Paid 5.00
 Mrs. Sally Gleason Paid .00
 Phineas Gleason Paid 20.00 37.
 Eliza I. Sherman Paid .50
 Eben. Clarks Paid 10.00
 John Kent Paid 2.00
 W. Somenky Paid 2.00
 Marshall Russell paid 1.00
 William Sherman paid 5.00 52.50

\$		\$	
Arthur B White Paid	5.00	Jos S Draper Paid	20.00
Thomas P Velling Paid	1.00	E. A. Draper Paid	2.00
James A Waver Paid	5.00	Jos A Draper Paid	1.00
William A Wood Paid	2.00	Chas H. Draper Paid	1.00
Wm J Wood Paid	1.00	Frank W. Draper Paid	1.00
Wm M Wood Paid	1.00	Jacob Marshall Paid	3.00
Wm L Wood Paid	1.00	Wm Marshall Paid	1.00
Wm R Duelle Paid	2.00	Mary Jane Marshall Paid	1.00
Lucy Anna Duelle Paid	1.00	Joseph A. Roby Paid	2.00
Samuel Ann Duelle Paid	2.00	Susan Roby Paid	1.00
Chas Rice Paid	3.00	Susan Goodt Paid	1.00
Wm C. Grout Paid	5.00	Caroline A. Reeves Paid	1.00
Stephen Roberts Paid	5.00	Ira B. Draper Paid	.50
Phemelia Roberts Paid	2.00	Louisa Draper Paid	.50
Ezra R. Roberts Paid	1.50	Wm Dexter Draper Paid	.50
John A. Roberts Paid	1.50	Curtis M. Draper Paid	.50
L. H. Reed Jr Paid	2.00	Henry Reeves Paid	2.00
James Reed Paid	10.00	Michael Hannon	1.00
Leander C. Drury Paid	5.00	Jonas A. Morse Paid	5.00
Ezra T. Rutter Paid	.50	Wm H. Drury Paid	2.00
David Hoar Paid	1.00	Phineas H. Heston	1.00
Edward S. Carter Paid	.50	James S. Heston Paid	.50
George W. Carter Paid	.25	Richard H. Heston Paid	.50
Charles Rupert Paid	.50	Harriet M. Heston Paid	.50
Elizabeth Heston Paid	2.00	B. A. Duelle & Family Paid	2.00
Floriana Russell Paid	3.00	George L. Rupert	.50
		William D. Bullard Paid	.50
375		56	

Thomas J. Damon paid 5.00 Sylvester Underwood^{pd} 1.00
 Josiah A. Thomas paid 5.00 Wm H. Bemis^{pd} 1.00
 Artemus Bonnet paid 5.00 Samuel Loker 2.00
 Julia Ann Dudley paid .50 Jefferson Loker paid 1.00
 James M. Bent paid 3.00 James A. Loker paid 1.00
 Henry Coggin paid 3.00 Edward R. Loker paid 1.00
 Charles B. Damon paid 2.00 John C. Butterfield 1.00
 Lafayette Dudley paid 2.00 Luther Damon paid 1.00
 Ezra L. Howe paid 1.00 Calvin H. Saunders paid .50
 Freeman Thomas paid 1.00 Chas Damon paid .50
 Wm Loker paid 1.00 Solomon G. Farmer paid .50
 Chas Loker paid 1.00 Elbridge J. Carter paid .50
 Samuel Moore 1.50 Willard Loker^{pd} .50
 Nancy Loker^{pd} .25
 John J. Murphy^{pd} .25
 Ebenezer Loker paid 1.00
 H. R. Newton paid 2.00

8

\$

Miss H. Walker paid .10
 James D. Walker Paid 2.00
 J. I. Hawkes paid 1.00
 Mary Park Paid 1.00
 Elizabeth J. Whitney Paid .50
 Arthur Stillman Paid .50
~~Aug. M. Jones~~ paid 3.00
 Sarah Griffin Paid .50
 Maynard Sherman Paid .50
 Calvin Sherman Paid 2.00
 Mary Moore paid .25
 Gardner Sherman Paid 2.00
 Benj L. Howe
 Stephen Jameson paid .25
 Daniel Moulton paid .25
 Sarah F. Moulton paid .25
 Catharine C. Hammond paid .50
 John M. Bradshaw .50
 J. W. Allen Paid 5.00
 Henry Sherman paid 3.00
 Jatham Bullard Paid 5.00
 Charles H. Sherman Paid 5.00
 Jeremiah G. Hammond paid 1.00
 John Mowcrass .50
 Conners Francis Paid 2.00
 Asahel Wheeler Paid .50

James Sherman Paid 5.00
 David Heard Paid 10.00
 William Bridg Pd 10.00
 Joseph Bullard paid 5.00
 Samuel M Thomas Paid 5.00
 Lewis Jones Paid 5.00
 Anna Johnson Paid 5.00
 Nathan Johnson Paid 5.00
 Josiah Smith 1.00
 Joanne Bullard Paid 2.00
 Amos Glezen Paid .50
 Abby Russell & Sister paid 2.00
 Wm Whittumon paid 2.00
 Sarah Noyes paid 1.00
 Stone paid 1.00
 John Moore Paid 1.00
 Sarah Moore Paid .25
 Sarah Moore Paid .10
 Mary Moore Paid .10
 William Moore Paid .10
 Lucy L. Moore Paid .10
 Daniel Webster (Dr. 75) Paid 1.00
 David Spofford paid 1.00
 James D Loker Paid 1.00
 Joseph R. Wink paid 1.00
 Walter Ruys Paid 3.00
 Charles W. Ruys Paid 2.00

see family

22.5

70.15

Names

\$ c

Names

\$ c

John Landon Paid 10 00

David Sherman Paid 10 00

Betsy Sherman Paid 3 00

Eli Sherman Paid 5 00

George E. Sherman Paid 1 00

Hannah B. Braman Paid 3 00

Wm. Baldwin Paid 5 00

Tarah Hoyer Paid 1 00

Wm. Hewes Paid 5 00

J. H. M. Hewes Paid 1 00

J. M. Hewes Paid 1 00

Ellen G. Hewes Paid 1 00

Convers Francis Paid 5 00

7553.90

Wayland Jan. 22 1848.

We the subscribers, do hereby severally agree to pay, on or before the 10th day of Feb. next, the sums set against our respective names, to aid in raising the sum of Five hundred dollars, - it being the requisite condition for securing the very liberal offer of an equal sum, made by a "Friend of Wayland" the whole to be used in purchasing a Town Library, in such manner, and under such regulations as the Town may hereafter adopt. -

\$

\$

Olis Loker Paid 5 00	Joseph Rice Paid 2.00
Thos. J. Thompson Paid 5 00	Chas. A. Ward Paid 2.00
Nancy Rutter Paid 5 00	Wm. Ward jr. Paid 2.00
Lyons Lee Paid 5 00	David Smith Paid 2.00
Hervey Reeves Paid 5 00	Jas H. Reeves 2.00
Edward Rice Paid 8 00	Joseph Sawin Paid .50
Edward Rice jr Paid 4 00	Dan. L. Sawin .37 1/2
Abby Rice Paid 2 00	Geo. W. Richards Paid .25
John N. Sherman Paid 5 00	Wm Richards Paid 1.00
Elisha W. Elms Paid 5 00	John M. Norcross Paid 1.00
J. B. Sherman Paid 12 00	Daniel Puffer Paid 2.00
Aschel Sherman Paid 5 00	Hannah Reeves Paid 2.00
Henry C. Walker Paid 12 1/2	John Hemmison Paid 2.00
Stephen Sumner Paid 50	Solomon Jennison Paid 1.50
54 1/2	62 1/2

Wayland Library.

ITS ORIGIN.

The proposition of Francis Wayland, D. D. President of Brown University, made through Hon. Edward Mellen, on commencement day of that University in 1847, to give to the town of Wayland the sum of \$500. to establish a Free Public Library, provided that an equal sum should be raised in town for the same object, found the citizens unable to act legally in their corporate capacity, in favor of that object. But five hundred and fifty-three dollars and ninety cents were subscribed by 208 persons,* in sums varying between ten cents, by some school children, to twenty-five dollars by several of the citizens, and the amount was collected before the 10th day of February following. This sum, with the donation of Dr. Wayland was formally tendered to the town and accepted at the annual March meeting in 1848.

ORGANIZATION.

On the 8th day of May following, a committee was chosen in town meeting to procure a suitable place for the Library, and also a committee to purchase books. Regulations for the Library were also adopted.

OPENING FOR CIRCULATION.

The first invoice of books was purchased June 28, and the shelves were thence-forward rapidly filled with volumes made ready for circulation. On the 7th day of August 1850 the citizens of Wayland proudly took to their homes the first fruits of this most important public auxiliary to their intellectual, social and moral improvement.

This Library sustains the honorable position of being the *First Free Public Library* in the state; and has not only the distinction of leading the van in our own Commonwealth, but of the other New England States and elsewhere throughout our country.

ENDOWMENT.

In 1863, Dea. Jas. Draper gave to the town the sum of five hundred dollars as a permanent fund for the future benefits of the Library. As an expression of our appreciation of the generosity of these two chief benefactors of this valuable institution we would suggest the propriety of having their portraits, either engraved, photographic, or on canvas, hung in the Library-room.

Endowments of large amount are not to be expected. But if every one who has one or more volumes that they have read and can spare from their private libraries, and of pamphlets, as well, would donate them to the Public Library, such a course pursued from year to year, would be esteemed a public benefit.

STATISTICS.

The first purchases for the Library were subsequently augmented by the addition of the "School-district," and the old "Social Libraries;"—and during the last year by sundry volumes hitherto kept in the Clerk's office.

The last report of the Library Committee (Apr. 1874) shows the total number of vols. there belonging to the Library to be 4782. Of Pamphlets there are filed in departments alphabetically arranged, about 1600.

At the present date over 300 volumes are in constant circulation.

JAS. S. DRAPER, *Librarian.*

Dec. 17. 1875

REV. T. A. MERRILL,	} <i>Library</i>
MISS MARY E. REEVES,	
MRS. WM. LOVEJOY,	} <i>Committee.</i>
MRS. J. A. BENT,	
MR. JAS. S. DRAPER.	

*Seventy-three of these persons have finished their earthly career.

In this Library we have not only the means of knowledge and culture and an incitement to public spirit, but also that which honorably attracts the attention of public educators in neighboring States. In a recent address by Prof. Dimon of Brown University, delivered at Bristol, R. I., at the dedication of the public library building just erected there, the town of Wayland is brought into favorable notice, by making mention of the library of which the citizens of Wayland are so justly proud. He says:—

“In the year 1847, before either the Astor library or the Boston Public library had been established, the late President Wayland, always keenly alive to whatever might promote the public good, tendered to the quiet little town in Massachusetts that bore his name the sum of \$500, on condition that an equal sum should be secured, for a Town library. More than the required sum was readily secured by subscription. Doubt being expressed as to the right of the town to impose a tax for such a purpose, a statute was enacted by the Legislature, in 1851, authorizing towns and cities throughout the Commonwealth to establish and maintain public libraries; thus giving the system its widest extension, and securing its most distinctive advantage.

“We remember,” he continues, “with just pride that this beneficent and far-reaching legislation which has not only done so much to diffuse the benefits of the free library, but has done so much also to awaken a popular interest in the movement, was due to the persistent labors of Rev. J. B. Wight, one of Bristol’s sons, but for many years a resident of Wayland, and at that time a member of the General Court. To him belongs the praise of introducing the act which has proved so fruitful in good results.”

Words like these, coming from such a source, should serve to increase our appreciation of the value of an institution so productive of happiness to the people, and whose tendency is to elevate the character and promote the higher interests of the community.

In behalf of the Committee:

T. A. MERRILL, *Chairman.*
WAYLAND, Feb. 1, 1878.

E. A. Pierce
L. H. Sherman
C. R. Damon
J. N. Cochrane.

Lib. Com.

